

The DX Bulletin

ISSUE 167 NOVEMBER 22, 1982

PROPAGATION: Nov 22, Low Normal; Nov 23, 24, High/Low Normal; Nov 25, Below Normal; Nov 26, Low/Below Normal; Nov 27, 28, Low Normal; Nov 29, Below Normal; Nov 30, Low Normal; Dec 1, 2, High Normal; Dec 3, High/Low Normal; Dec 4, High Normal; Dec 5, Low Normal; Dec 6, 7, High Normal. TNX N4XX.

Flux (80)	Flux (81)	Date	Flux (82)	Alpha (82)	K (82)
265	221	11/11	157	15	3
246	228	11/12	168	15	2
232	220	11/13	165	16	2
227	212	11/14	163	10	2
212	196	11/15	161	12	2
195	185	11/16	167	10	3

CHINA

Two new opportunities to work the People's Republic of China are developing. Station BY8AA, mentioned last week, is very authentic, according to a postcard received from the managers of BY1PK in Peking. BY8AA is in the capital city of Chengtu, Szechwan Province. Chengtu is about 400 miles east of the Tibetan border and 750 miles almost due north of Hanoi. Operation by "Xxan" and "Lml" began Nov 4, and the very chirpy CW is attributed to poor power line regulation. Our first reliable word of the new station came from reader Arch Doty, K8CFU, who was in China when the announcement was made. BY8AA has been heard only on 15 Meter CW, with a big signal into the U.S. West Coast and Midwest around 0100Z, and the operators seemed fairly experienced. Xxan was trained at the BY1PK station earlier this year. QSLs go to BY1PK, PO Box 6106, Beijing, P.R.C.

Three operators from Japan, including Kan Mizoguchi, have received permission to operate BY1PK in the CQ WW CW Contest Nov 27/28, and on the Monday after (Nov 29). (Kan is JA1BK).

QSL info: next issue will carry the monthly complete QSL listings, but here's what we've scrounged from the CQ WW Phone Contest:

9Y4W	to	N2MM	FM7CD	to	F5VU
8P6J	to	N6TR	ZF2GI	to	W4OWY
P47N	to	W5NUT	VP5B	to	N4KE
VP5KP	to	W6S2N	HBØBHA	to	DK6NN
VP2MIX	to	WØIJN	9Y4VT	to	WA6KZI
HD8GI	to	W3HNK			

Still need: HH2CQ, VP2VIN

NORTHERN LIGHTS FINNISH OHØW*

OH2BH's own words need no editing...

"OHØW - the one being called the most massive contest effort in the history of Amateur Radio looked more like the world's biggest pancake after the first six hours of the Contest" (CQ WW Phone). "The northern lights were very romantic, blazing the skies on the Arctic Circle."

However, through the dynamite efforts of all individuals involved, the station managed to push the score up to 11,500 QSOs and 21 megapoints, and rack up an all-time European record. They surely did it on multipliers, since there was no sign of pile-ups. The list looks pretty impressive with almost a 5Band DXCC worked in forty-eight hours:

1.8 - 43/9 3.7 - 92/24 7 - 113/35

14 - 166/40 21 - 164/40 28 - 155/39

"Now the snow is falling on Aland Islands and the operators are donning their fur hats, getting ready for the CW Weekend" (Nov 27/28)...

1821-3501-7001-14030-21030-28030

Sunrise: 0705Z Sunset: 1338Z

* OK, how about "Northern lights mean curtains for Aland Island Effort?" - Ed.

* Or maybe "We called the first CQ and heard aurora big signals calling us."

YASME REPORT - ABU AIL NEXT!

Iris Colvin, W6QL, and Lloyd Colvin, W6KG, completed J2ØDU Djibouti operations Nov 8, after three weeks which produced 7000 contacts in 155 countries. That was a new record for them for a three-week stint (aided by the CQ WW Phone Contest).

The Colvins will open from Abu Ail Dec 2 for forty-eight hours, signing G5ACI/AA. The YASME Foundation has held the callsign G5ACI for ten years, and the Abu Ail effort is characterized by Iris and Lloyd as the "most difficult, most dangerous, and most Expensive" YASME DXpedition ever. They stress that all QSLs are to go to the standard YASME address (PO BOX 2025, Castro Valley CA 94546). Abu Ail operation will be "continuous," all bands, both CW and 'phone.

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A clarification of information on Heard Island which appeared in Issue 164: the Wireless Institute of Australia is not funding or organizing the Operation which we endorsed. The "VK6 DX Chasers Club" is responsible on the Australian end, with the International DX Foundation and the Northern California DX Foundation providing support in the U.S. According to Bruce Barthols, VK3UV, editor of Amateur Radio (the official journal of the WIA), "The Federal Executive of the WIA believed that it was proper to encourage this expedition, and it has done so through the pages of Amateur Radio."

10 MHz: top score reported on the new band is 26 DXCC countries and all continents, from W1. According to the ARRL Letter (Issue 2), our local friend was not the only one to hear from the FCC for straying into the verboten territory on 10 MHz; ARRL reports FCC has been quite busy monitoring the "window."

A special station will be operated by the Nigerian Amateur Radio Society at Lagos' Specialized International Trade Fair Nov 20-29, signing 5NØSIF. No QSL info available.

Poland's club station SP5PZK has been active again on an irregular basis, and operator Toly says private SP stations are expected to return to the air before long. Dec 13 will be the first anniversary of martial law in Poland and the banning of amateur radio.

The Third Tokyo DX Convention will be next Feb 5 and 6 at the Kudan-Kaikan Hotel, near the royal palace in Tokyo. More information can be obtained from JAKSO.

And the International DX Convention, this year sponsored by the No. California DX Club, will be April 22-24, 1983, at the Holiday Inn in Visalia. Convention general chairman is Bill Zachman, W6TPH, and program co-chairpersons are Jan and Jay O'Brien, K6HHD and W6GO. Attention clubs: send two sets of labels addressed to your members to the NCDXC, and your members will receive mailings on the convention. NCDXC: PO BOX 608, Menlo Park, CA 94025. Your club mailing list will not be used for any other purpose.

Several readers report that Kenwood is stonewalling on any information on updating their equipment to WARC bands. QST magazine has scheduled an article on a 3-band Kenwood mod for next March or April. That will, coincidentally, be about the time that ARRL membership dues are increased from \$25 to \$27.50.

Rick Dorsch, WBBABN, is home in Michigan "permanently" after nine years in Ecuador as HC1EE. He has IRCs to peddle at 40 cents each, minimum order one hundred, to 1745 Oakstone Drive, Rochester MI 48063.

ARRL says BV2A/B will be allowed on 40 and 80 Meters beginning about Dec 1; no mention of whether specific frequencies are mandated.

Wayne Green, W2NSD, did show from one spot on his current Asian jaunt...9M8PW. Might pay to look for VS5WG this week.

See the Calendar for spots on K4YT's next trip, starting in January. Karl says that another member of his State Department team, K4DDA, also travels beginning in January, and his itinerary is also in the Calendar beginning this issue.



Andy, ZD9BV, and friend Lorna, ZD9YL. ZD9BV, a new ham, moved Tristan da Cunha off the "Top 73" needed countries in less than a year. Photo courtesy W4FRU.

The P42E Curacao team for the upcoming CQ WW CW Contest includes W8LRL, N8II, N4MM, KC8C, AA4S, WA2SPL, K4BAI, WD4AXM, K2BA, and AA6RX. All P42E QSLs to WA2SPL. After the Contest, John Kanode, N4MM, will operate /PJ2 and concentrate on 10 and 50 MHz.

A "Portuguese Net" meets Saturdays and Sundays, 28610 at 1100-1400Z, and features appearances by CR9AN and 5T5TO. Managers are CTIs BOL and BGC.

K1CC will be at YV3BRF for the CQ WW CW and hopes for a special call sign for the contest. After that he'll operate 10 MHz for a week if he can obtain permission.

A13R says only D44BC and D44BS are legitimate Cape Verde stations; D4CBW on lately is a pirate. And Karen Blocher, WA4VDX, is getting QSLs for various stations, but she is not QSL manager for anyone.

New Twin City DX Ass'n officers are WØYDB, WØWDW, and WØELA. They have a limited membership of 45 and a screening process to ensure quality. The West Texas DX Association in the Midland area is now run by W9ZTD, AF5B, and K5IID. Personally, we are still waiting for someone to start a "Connecticut DX Association"!



At a September, 1982 meeting of the Sheboygan (Wis) DX Club: (l-r) KE9A, KO9Q, KH6IJ, WB9QCY, and WA9OAK. Photo courtesy WB9YXY.

BANDPASS: Call/Frequency/UTC (plus West, Central, East Coast report)/Date

AP2HM 14207 12E 10	J88AY 14034 02E 13	UK2BAS/	3B8FK 21021 00E 11
A22CA 21292 19C 10	KL7RA 10103 02E 9	UG6 14202 23E 8	3D6AK 21033 19E 11
A4XJO 28565 14C 7	AH2G 7007 13E 13	UI8TAA 14031 03E 9	3V8AA 28743 15E 11
A71BJ 28623 12E 7	LX2FT 10101 02E 12	UI8LBB 14020 04E 10	3V8AA 28744 15E 12
BV2A 14028 12E 17	M1V 28570 16C 7	UI8LBO 14002 04E 10	4S7EA 14225 12E 11
BY8AA 21049 02C 10	M1J 28630 13E 13	UI8LBA 14013 03E 10	5B4LY 14004 03W 10
CT3DJ 14029 03E 10	9G1SP/	UM8FZ 14021 03E 9	5B4LY 14015 03E 11
C53DF 14207 06E 13	OD5 21252 15E 10	VK3MJ 10104 12E 12	5H3KG 14208 14C 7
NØZQ/	OX3CS 10120 22E 12	VK9YE 28501 23E 7	5W1DZ 28582 00E 11
DU2 21026 01E 10	K2KTT/	VK9NS 14220 07E 13	5Z4DE 14213 05E 9
4D9RG 28539 23E 10	PJ7 14215 04E 11	VP8ANT 28012 14E 7	5Z4CO 21292 19E 10
EA2IA 10103 22E 12	S79WHW 28501 11E 7	(Antarctica)	6W8HL 28602 14E 14
FB8WG 14332 11E 7	DF3NZ/	VP8QG 14212 02E 10	7P8CL 21025 19C 10
FK8CE 28014 20C 10	ST2 21292 19E 9	(Falklands)	7Q7LW 28505 19E 13
FK8EJ 14025 05E 24	ST2SA 28585 22E 12	VP8AOC 14211 04E 11	7X2BB 10103 01E 10
FO8GE 14220 03E 13	TF3JO 28005 15E 9	(S. Orkneys)	8Q7AZ 14212 12C 13
FG7CB/	TL8GE 14202 04E 9	VQ9CI 14206 13C 7	9J2BO 21356 19C 7
FS 14201 12E 11	TL8GE 21292 19E 9	VQ9VO 14025 13C 11	9J2BO 28030 19C 11
FWØXR 7079 11E 16	TL8CK 21282 20E 13	VQ9VO 14030 02E 13	9K2BE 28755 13E 13
GD4AM 21026 20C 9	TR8JD 21292 19E 9	VR6TC 21349 23C 9	9M9PW 14229 13E 10
H21AB 28540 14E 12	TR8JD 28596 14E 13	VS5HG 14212 11E 9	9M8PW 14225 12E 17
H44SH 3800 12E 13	TR8JCV 28607 14C 13	VU9GVY 7003 00E 12	9N1WV 14030 01E 13
H44SH 28557 22E 13	TU2JB 28512 13C 7	YBØANJ 7009 11E 7	9X5SL 28732 13E 14
JE2ZDX/	TU2IE 21336 22C 11	YB2BLI 14215 13E 10	
JD1 21024 03W 10	TU2DD 14029 23E 11	YI1BGD 14221 07E 9	
(Ogasawara)	T32AF 3508 11E 11	OE2TWM/	
JT1BG 14215 14C 11	T32AK 14026 04E 13	YK 14226 00C 12	
JY7FE 28532 12E 14	F6FIC/	YK1AO 28520 12E 13	
J2BAZ 14220 12E 7	TZ 14278 01E 14	3A2EE 14203 14C 7	
J28DP 14015 03E 10	UK2PCR/	3B8CS 28610 19E 9	
	U6V 21025 13E 11	3B8FG 14213 12C 11	

HAVE YOU WORKED EVERY VAL, VLAD, AND YURI?

By Tom Frenaye, K1KI

Here's something to add spice to your DXing... USSR Oblast hunting. You can specialize in any country with a large amateur radio population (e.g. Japan, England, Germany, Brazil); I have chosen the U.S.S.R., which is workable from here just about round-the-clock on one band or another.

My interest in chasing Russian oblasts came from K3EST's reputation for having "almost all of them," and the first step was to find out what "all of them" means. I dug up a list of oblasts put together by W1YL in 1977; there are about 180 of them, and working a hundred qualifies you for the R-100-0 award. To date, only PAØBE has worked all the oblasts (outside the U.S.S.R.) although K3EST's application is said to be in process.

Oblasts, as defined by the R-100-0 Award, differ somewhat from the real political divisions in the USSR (some of the divisions are krais, autonomous SSRs, autonomous oblasts or nationality okrugs, but that's a topic all its own). In general, an Oblast represents some type of political district. As the USSR changes, oblasts are added and deleted.

The best thing about working oblasts is you needn't ask each operator which oblast he or she is in...the callsign will tell you. There are even a few oblasts with no resident operators but which host occasional DXpeditions. Sort of like DXCC. All the ingredients are there for serious attention.

With only a few exceptions, the number in the callsign and the first letter following it will tell you which oblast (and therefore which DXCC country, CQ zone, and ITU zone) the station is in. Most special calls follow the same rule, but those callsigns issued before 1970 may not. Pre-1970 callsigns are the ones with only a two-letter suffix, such as UALDZ, UF6CR, UWØLT. Even some of these still follow the rule.

Oblasts Quick List (182 total)

U1: ACNOPQTWZ
 U2: ABFGILORSW (C=A, P=B, T=R)
 U3: ADEGILMNPRSTUVWXYZ
 U4: ACFHLNPSUWY
 U5: ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUWVWXYZ
 U6: ABCDEFGHIJKLOPQUVWXY
 U7: ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPRTVY
 U8: ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUWVWXYZ
 (P=two oblasts; PAA-PM
 PAA-PMZ; PNA-PZZ)
 U9: ACFGHJIKLNOQSUXYZ
 UØ: ABCDFHIJKLOQSTUWVWXYZ

Plus Arctic and Antarctic

After a look through your QSL collection (Russian QSLs invariably have their oblast on them -ed.), you may find from 100 to 120 of them but there will most likely be big gaps, especially in the hard-to-work 7th and 8th call areas. You will discover that one of those you need is a nuclear testing area or a spacecraft landing site or a district created because it was predominantly of one ethnic group. You will find the QTH given by most Russians is likely to be the capital of their oblast.

Once you begin to figure out where all of the various oblasts are you'll have a slight edge over the next person because you know that a UA90 is in CQ Zone 18 and UA9J is in Zone 17, or that the ARRL DXCC list only shows the commonly worked oblasts and the UK8XBD you worked is really a UJ8!

(NOTE: this article originally appeared in slightly different form in the Sept/Oct 1982 issue of the National Contest Journal, 1914 W. Cortez Circle, Chandler AZ 85224) and is reprinted here with permission. For more information on Oblast Hunting, send a large SASE to Tom Frenaye, Box 62, Unionville, CT 06085, for a copy of his "USSR TIDBITS").

CALENDAR

W2NSD At VS5WG, then returning home to N.H.
 Africa Still waiting for F6BBJ/Africa; Issue 163
 YASME Colvins to G5ACI/AA Abu Ail Dec 2/3; I 167
 Tonga A35TN by VK3DET until Nov 30
 10 MHz Now open; Issue 165

Clipperton In Nov by FO8 group rumored; fading. I 163
 Chad Still waiting for TT8 by TL8GE in Nov
 Iraq YI1BGD showing 14220, 13-15Z, 05-07Z
 Kenya 5Z4JR by OH2BAH now to Dec 1

Amsterdam FB8ZP rumored by F6DWAQ, starting Nov
 Kerguelen FB8XR rumored by F6GVX, starting Nov
 Tanzania 5H3BH by SMØs AJU, DJZ, Nov 24-Dec 6
 V3MS By WØCP Nov 24-Dec 6
 Campbell ZL4OY/A QRT Nov 27; ZL3AFH/A QRT Dec

Crozet FB8WG QRT Nov 27; replacements coming
 Oman Special A4XX Nov 27/28 on 10-15-20
 China BY1PK by JA group Nov 27/28; Issue 167
 Wallis FWØ by VK3DHT Nov 27-Dec 4
 Samoa 5W1DW by VK3DET Dec 1-7

Nepal 9N1A by KP2A Dec 15-Jan 1
 Contest CQ WW CW Nov 27/28; see supplementary list
 Nepal 9N38 by WB4NFO Late Dec; Issue 164
 Contest ARRL 160 Meter Dec 4/5
 Am Samoa VK3DET/KH8 Dec 8-15

Rodriguez 3B9DA by 3B8DA mid Dec
 ST Kitts VP2K by KCØFW Dec 10-14
 Contest ARRL 10 Meter Dec 11/12
 Heard Island January, 1983; Issue 164
 Syria Special events stations 6C35A, 6C35M,
 6C35N, 6C35O, Dec 25/26 and 30/31
 K4YT Trip January '83: YI, AP, VU, 4S7, HS, 9M2,
 XW, 9V, YBØ, DU, BY
 K4DDA Trip January '83: JY, A4, A7, A6, A9, 9K,
 HZ, ST, 4W, SU, YK

CQ WW CW Contest

5H3BH by SMØAJU, SMØDJZ
 BY1PK by JA1BK group
 P42E by PVRC group; Issue 167
 OHØW by OH2BH group
 K1XA/6Y5 and W1GNC/6Y5

5W1 by W7CB, W6OUL, WA6OET,
 K6JG

K5NA/KP2
 V3UR by N5UR
 9K2DX by N6NI

FP8 by VE1ASJ
 N6BT/AHØ
 5Z4JR by OH2BAH
 V3MS by WØCP
 P47E by W4UY

CONTRIBUTORS

N4NO, K2OLG, KB8KW, K4BAI, KØCVD,
 K6IR, XE1NI, KD7H, KA1DOS, W4VQ,
 W9SC, WB8ZRL, WA1KEA, N4WB, WØBW,
 KA3R, WB1FSW, W1HJF, WD5AAM, W1DQH,
 KA1BU, VK3UV, N1CIX, KC9JH, K6FO,
 K6SSJ, WØGK, JA1ELY, WØLHS, KF1K,
 WB8ABN, VK9NS, W3ICM, OH2BH, WØIJN,
 WA8WMC, K8CFU, YASME, JF1FDP,
 K4PR, W8UVZ, K4YT, W2HAZ, K1CC,
 AI3R, KA1KD, WØYDB, WB9YXY, W4FRU.

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